# Halfway

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Nagareboshi Manga
www.nagare-boshi.net

MARGARET COMICS
別冊マーガレット

YAMAGUCHI Izumi

# Halfway

haa
haa
COME ON DO YOUR BEST
WHAT IS "TO GET CLOSE TO"?
"TO APPROACH"
haa
haa
One winter
in Hokkaido
The me who has happened to hear of an important fact.
is running.

!!
SHOULD WE GO AND GET SOMETHING TO EAT?
THAT'D BE NICE.
WAIT
UP!!
BREAK
AH...
SHUU,
YOUR GIRLFRIEND IS RUNNING HERE WITH TREMENDOUS POWER.
AH. .
IS SHE MAD?
SHE'S FAR AWAY SO I CAN'T TELL.
DID YOU DO SOMETHING?
NO...
AH, SHE'S MAD, HER FACE...

IT'S DANGEROUS, HIRO-CHAN HAS A KNIFE.
No way!
I'M LYING...
RUN
AH... YES...
THEN, I'M GOING TO GO HEAD HOME FIRST.
HIRO-CHAN, WHY DON'T YOU COME AND EAT OKONOMIYAKI WITH US TOO?
...
YAY~
DON'T GO!
LATER!!
BE GOOD YOU TWO—
Because no one wants anything to go wrong for couples on Christmas Eve.

ISN'T THERE SOMETHING THAT YOU'RE HIDING FROM ME?
...IT'S NO USE MAKING THOSE EYES...
WHAT ABOUT HIRO?
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE?
I'LL TREAT YOU TO SOMETHING.
KNUC
IT'S NO USE MAKING THOSE SAD LOOKING EYES!

THIS IS WHAT I WANT.
tap
THIS.
...AND THEN?
AND THEN...
POUR
AND THEN..
I'LL THROW IT INTO THE NON-COM-BUSTIBLE GARBAGE
IF I DRINK IT ALL TODAY AND IT BECOMES JUST A CAN,

AND THEN
SHUU
WON'T BE ABLE TO GO TO TOKYO.

splash
WHY TOKYO?
YOU PROMISED THAT WE'D GO TO THIS UNIVERSITY!
WHY ARE YOU TAKING THE EXAM FOR WASEDA?
IN THE FIRST PLACE--
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT? THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE HEARD YOU'RE INTERESTED IN PHILOSOPHY!
...YEAH, THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SAID IT.
KISS
I'M NOT EVEN CRYING!!
DON'T CRY
IF YOU'RE GOING TO TOKYO, WHY ARE YOU GOING OUT WITH ME!
WHY ARE YOU GOING TO THAT FAR PLACE!
...I WANT TO STUDY PHILOSOPHY AT WASEDA.
ME OR WASEDA, WHICH ONE DO YOU LIKE!!
...

I..
SEEM LIKE THAT STUPID WOMAN IN THAT NEIGHBOURHOOD.
WHY ARE YOU LETTING ME SAY ALL THIS!
You said it yourself
TRAITOR.
COWARD
WEAKLING!
EVEN IF I TAKE IT I DON'T KNOW IF I'LL PASS IT...
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME FIRST?
NO MATTER WHAT I SAY, YOU GET MAD..
...I WAS STILL WAVERING...
I'M SORRY.
XOSS

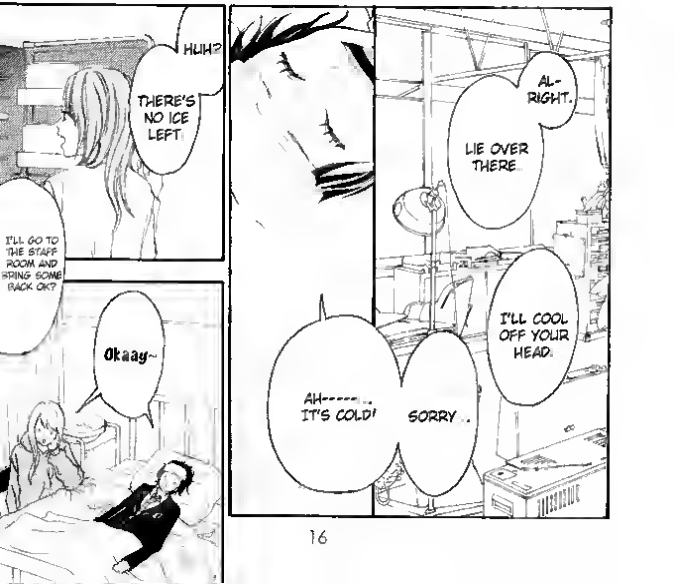
Uwah!
CRASH
I DON'T ...
HAVE ANYTHING LEFT TO THROW...

WHY..
WHY
TOKYO...
"SOMEHOW,"
I THINK THAT"
"NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,"

Hiro
"THIS IS STILL ONLY THE MIDDLE OF THE STORY"
"FROM HERE ON WE'RE DEFINITELY HEADING TOWARDS A HAPPY ENDING"
EH!?
before we dated—
That was still
was saying that at that time
Oh. Nice shot—
HE SAID HE WANTS TO REFLECT UPON HIMSELF.
HE SAID HE'S GOING ON A JOURNEY.
HE WON'T GET FIRED FROM HIS JOB?
THAT'S AMAZING, A JOURNEY TO FIND YOURSELF..
AH, I SEE...
NO, SEE, WE RUN AN INDE PENDENT BUSINESS
MY DAD, SINCE HE LEFT THAT FAREWELL LETTER HE HASN'T RETURNED FOR A WEEK
SE-RIOUS-LY?
FARE-WELL LETTER ...?

MY MOM DOESN'T SLEEP EVERY DAY...
...
...
...
HM?
IT'S HERE
IT'S HERE
THE USUAL ANEMIA
HAS COME

## INFIRMARY


AL-RIGHT.
LIE OVER THERE.
I'LL COOL OFF YOUR HEAD.
AH------.. IT'S COLD!
SORRY..
HUH?
THERE'S NO ICE LEFT.
I'LL GO TO THE STAFF ROOM AND BRING SOME BACK OK?
Okaay~

UM!!
EVEN THOUGH I HAD THE INTENTION TO SAY
"DO YOUR BEST AT THE FINALS!"
SO YOU DIDN'T SAY IT—
I SEE
FI
FINALS
...
?
ARE STARTING
...
...
HIRO, WHY DO YOU GET LIKE THAT?
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE FAIRLY CUTE
NO,
NOT AT ALL.
STICK
THAT'S NOT RIGHT, HIRO.
THIS ISN'T WHERE YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE HAPPY. IT'S WHERE YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE MAD!

"WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY 'FAIRLY'!?"
"I'M THE CUTEST IN THE WHOLE WORLD!" YOU HAVE TO THINK SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
I CAN'T.
NO, AND THAT'S NOT ALL
SHINOZAKI IS IMPOSSIBLE
THE COMPETITION IS HIGH
...I KNOW
COLLIDE
WAH!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?!
ISN'T THAT SHINOZAKI-KUN?
HUH, WHO IS IT...?
NO WAY---
I WONDER IF HE'S ALRIGHT

.....
Im thirsty
Nnah
Shino-zaki !!
...IS THE DOCTOR HERE?
AH, NO, NOT AT THE MOMENT
HN~

...MEME...
WHAT--
WHAT IS IT!?
shaa
OW.
YOU KNOW, I JUST HAD A DREAM ABOUT SHINOZUKI-KUN...
ON TOP OF THAT, I WAS able TO CONFESS MY LOVE!
TO THAT SHINOZAKI SHUU, YOU KNOW!?
THIS REALLY IS DEPRESSING...
IF THIS WERE TO HAPPEN I'D BE SO HAPPY I'D DIE!
...OR SOMETHING SO IF I THINK ABOUT IT, IT REALLY IS A DREAM
EVEN THOUGH I HATE GOOD DREAMS...

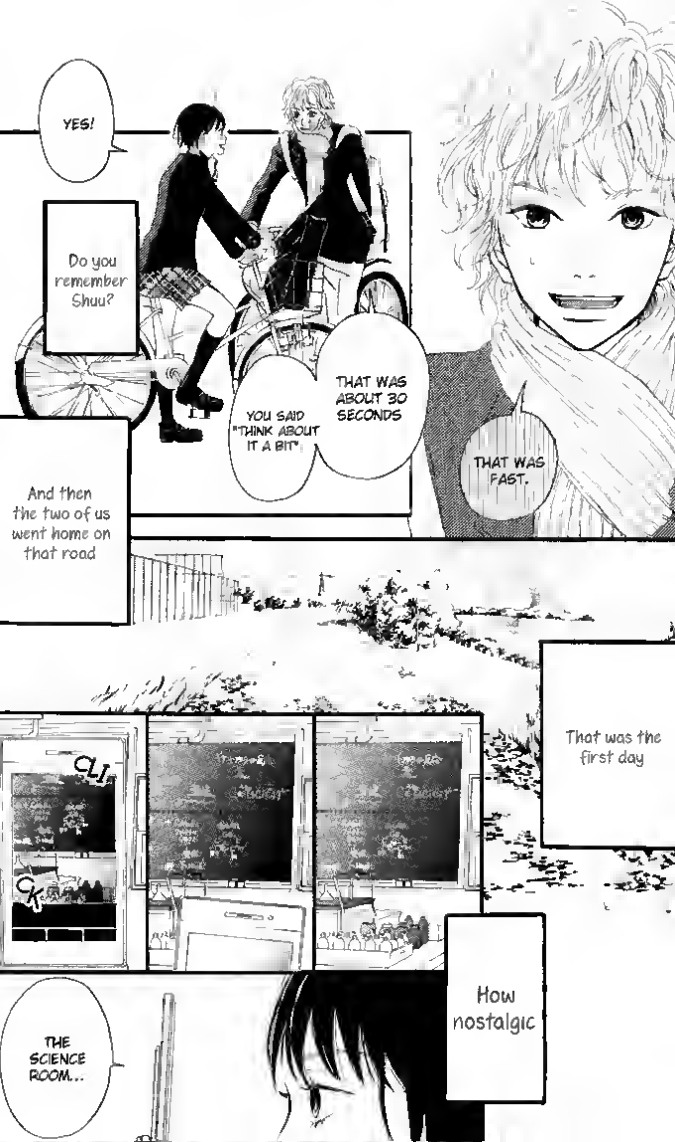
...
AFTER I WAKE UP, THE TEARS COME...
...I
I GET IT, I GET IT, HIRO!
I AL-READY KNOW ABOUT SHINO-ZUKA, SO—
IT WOULD PROBABLY BE BEST IF YOU SLEEP A BIT MORE!
...BUT
YOUR DAD WILL DEFINITELY COME HOME.
I WONDER WHAT I SHOULD DO.
YEAH, SORT OF.
"DIFFICULT TIME," YOU MEAN ABOUT MY HOME?
AH,
EVEN THOUGH IT'S A DIFFICULT TIME, I JUST KEEP GOING ON ABOUT MYSELF
AH—
I'M SORRY, MEME...

I...
SOME-HOW,
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS
THINK THAT
THIS IS STILL JUST THE MIDDLE OF THE STORY.
FROM HERE ON,
WE'RE DEFINITELY HEADING TOWARDS A HAPPY ENDING.

I thought she was a nice girl
That's why at that time I
THAT'S WHY
YOUR DAD WILL DEFINITELY COME HOME.
...YEAH, THANK YOU, HIRO.
...UM,
...WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO OUT WITH ME?
EH?

I'm sorry.
THAT'S WHY, IF YOU WANT, I'D LIKE YOU TO GO OUT WITH ME.
OR SO TO SAY, IT WAS MORE LIKE IT SEEMED LIKE WE COULD GET ALONG
NO, IT'S BECAUSE
FROM BEFORE, I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE NICE
EH?
I DON'T DO THOSE THINGS MUCH...
DATING AND SUCH
EH?
LATER!!
NO...
HUH?
What is this?
What is this what is this what is this what is this what--
GUNG
EH...?
Huh...?
DO YOU THINK YOU COULD YOU ALLOW ME TO THINK ABOUT IT A BIT?

.....Ahh, I see.
This is definitely a dream.
That's it, a dream.
A dream.
This
a dream.
Isn't a dream...!!
UM!!
I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT IT!
I'LL GO OUT WITH YOU!!


YES!
Do you remember Shuu?
THAT WAS ABOUT 30 SECONDS
YOU SAID "THINK ABOUT IT A BIT".
THAT WAS FAST.
And then the two of us went home on that road
That was the first day
CLI
CK
How nostalgic
THE SCIENCE ROOM...

CLICK
THE STAIR LANDING,
THE GROUND THAT IS VIEWED FROM THE BRIDGE,
CLICK
THE DRINKING FOUNTAIN,
CLICK
THE INFIRMARY THAT TOOK CARE OF ME,
AND
CLICK
MATSUURA-SENSEI
CLICK
THE MUSIC ROOM...

AH, IT'S TASU, WHAT'S UP?
HUH, HIRO-CHAN.
RAT
TLE
WHAT IS THAT? A HAND PRINT?
HM? I'M RETURN-ING...

PROOF THAT YOU WERE HERE?
YEAH,
I'M ABLE TO SAVE THE MUSIC ROOM IN MY CELL PHONE, BUT...
I WAS WONDERING IF I COULD LEAVE PROOF OF MYSELF IN THE MUSIC ROOM
I WONDER IF I COULD LEAVE PROOF THAT I WAS HERE,
IS WHAT I WAS THINK-ING.
graduating from school
Soon we'll end up

..I THINK I WOULD JUST BE IN THE WAY OF HIS EXAM STUDIES.
DID HE SAY ANYTHING ABOUT ME?
SHUU IS IN THE LIBRARY.
YOU HAVEN'T HUNG OUT LATELY.
I don't go as far as to say that
Shuu
CLICK
Before he does the exam I hope he says something like "After all I quit"
Waseda
AH, BUT HE WAS HAPPY. IT SEEMS THAT YOU'VE OK'ED HIM ABOUT GOING TO TOKYO.
HE HASN'T —?
NOT REALLY?
OK'ED HIM...
BUT YOU SAID THAT YOU'D SUPPORT HIM RIGHT?
AH, TASU, GET INTO THE PHOTO
I'M NOT EVEN HIS WIFE, WE DON'T EVEN HAVE A FAMILY.

...
WAIT
WAIT
WAIT
HIRO
WA—
I SAID WAIT
HIRO!
RATTLE!
DASH
EH...!
AH...!

PANK
PANK
PANK
PANK
WHA
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU...
I WASN'T ABLE TO CATCH YOU FROM THE START...
IT'S ENTIRELY DIFFERENT
"YOU DON'T NEED BAIT FOR A FISH YOU'VE ALREADY CAUGHT."
..I DON'T KNOW
DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT?
...
AND YOU ALSO DON'T RETURN MY MAIL.
YOU DON'T ANSWER YOUR PHONE,
...YOU DECIDED TO LEAVE FOR TOKYO BY YOURSELF.
SO IT'S THAT AGAIN.
IF...
IF HIRO IS LIKE THAT, THEN I'LL HESITATE WITH MY DECISION.
IF YOU HESITATE, THAT WOULD BE GOOD.

I'm still just a child who doesn't have the courage to chase after Shuu
Even if he leaves our hometown
IF YOU...
...AGAIN WITH THAT CHILDISH STUFF...
I AM A CHILD
ROP-PONGI HILLS, MIDTOWN
FEATURING PLACES LIKE AOYAMA
MAGA-ZINES?
LIKE NON-NO, & SPUR, FASHION THINGS.
AH, YEAH
CAME TO PLAY IN TOKYO, THAT WOULD BE GOOD.
LET'S GO TO THOSE SORTS OF PLACES TOGETHER.
I WAS HAVING FUN READING MAGAZINES.
AT FIRST,
...I BOUGHT A LOT OF MAGAZINES.

I BE-
CAME SAD
AND BEGAN
TO CRY...
BUT
30 MIN-
UTES
PASSED
AND...
SHOULD I
GIVE UP?
ON THE
EXAM

THEN GIVE UP.
NO YOU DON'T.
...EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T INTEND TO
YES, I DO.
I DO.
...
JUST KID-DING!
IT WAS A LIE!
I wish
to able to see Shuu off
A LONG DISTANCE RELATION-SHIP.
THAT'S COOL!
GO TO TOKYO! I'LL BE CHEERING YOU ON.
TAKE WASEDA'S EXAM

HM?
YOU WANT TO GO AND EAT SOMETHING?
NO, THAT'S NOT IT..
I MADE...
smiling
SHUU
..ARE YOU HUNGRY?
A BENTO THINKING I COULD PROPERLY MAKE UP WITH YOU, BUT..
I DIDN'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO GIVE IT TO YOU AT LUNCH.
AND ONE
IS STILL LEFT...
DELICIOUS

NOTE: SLANG DOESN'T TRANSLATE WELL. =(

IT'S BECAUSE I'M A REPRESENTATIVE COUNTRY PERSON
That's why
Y'KNOW?
YOU'RE GOING TO MEET A GIRL LIKE EBI-CHAN AND FALL IN LOVE, RIGHT?
THERE'S NO GIRL WHO'S LIKE EBI-CHAN

AH, I SEE.
IT'S CURRY.
I see
RE-MEMBER IT
IN YOUR YOUTH'S MEMORY REMEMBER THE FRIED MEAT WITH CURRY FLAVOUR THAT YOU ATE WITH YOUR GIRLFRIEND
WHAT'S WITH THAT?
BECAUSE IF YOU GO OVER THERE YOU'LL MAKE A GIRLFRIEND THERE, Y'KNOW?

I'LL EAT A LOT AND REMEMBER THE TASTE.
munch munch, munch
I KNOW
THAT RESPONSE IS WRONG
FOR NOW, I'LL EAT IT
EH?
You're joking?
TODAY, EVEN THOUGH I THOUGHT I DEFINITELY HAD TO BE SUCCESSFUL
THE MORE NERVOUS I BECAME,
THE MORE NERVOUS I WAS
That makes no sense...
I FAILED AND I HAD NO TIME, SO...
MOM MADE IT...
...
THAT IS
THE TRUTH IS, MOM MADE IT...

I will keep...

this sunset.

--Hiro?
The sunset that I saw together with Shuu
I will always always keep it
What are you doing?
Are you still at home?
IT WASN'T LIKE I WAS SLEEPING IN LATE
Then, what?
I THOUGHT I'D MAKE YOU EAT ON THE TRAIN IF I MADE A LUNCH.
Huh?
I FAILED IN MAKING THE FRIED MEAT.
MY BANGS ALSO DON'T LOOK VERY GOOD.
MY MOM SENT MY FAVOURITE MINT GREEN COAT TO THE CLEANER'S.
...And then?
THAT'S IT.
THE FRIED MEAT, MY BANGS, & MY COAT WITH THOSE 3 THINGS COMBINED, I CAN'T GO
...you're selfish...

I'M HANGING UP
BEING SELFISH AND GOING TO TOKYO.
...SHUU ALSO
Eh?!
beep
HE REALLY HUNG UP...
Even though
I thought I'd see him off for his exam
What am I doing?
Uwaaa—n!
IDIOT SHUU—!!
Go bald!

Don't go
Shuu
I'm fine so
do your best over there
Shuu
Go
Go
Don't go
Don't go

Go
Don't go.
Don't go.
Go

"Godon't."
...What is that?
haa
haa
haa
YOU'RE LATE
...It
It would be nice if that smile could be mine forever.
ARE YOU OK FOR TIME?
I SEE.
YEAH IF I TAKE THE NEXT TRAIN I SHOULD MAKE IT THERE JUST IN TIME

AH, THAT ONE.
THE MINT GREEN ONE, THE ONE WITH THE BROWN FUR ATTACHED HERE.
HM?
...YOU KNOW, I LIKE THAT ONE BETTER.
THE COAT.
IS THAT SO?
I LIKE THE ONE YOU'RE WEARING NOW BETTER
.....
YEAH
YEAH
IF YOU..
I GUESS SO..
DON'T SAY IT I WON'T UNDERSTAND.

STOP WITH THOSE SORT OF THINGS
YOU KNOW YOU
...I TOO
GET ANNOYED.
ALWAYS SAY NOTHING BUT THINGS LIKE "WITH THIS, IT ENDS".
I THOUGHT SHUU WAS COMPOSED
THERE'S NO REASON TO BE CALM
I'M SORRY
IF THERE WAS, WHY WOULD I BE HERE WITH YOU LIKE THIS?

SELF-ISHLY,
ALL OF A SUDDEN.
BY YOUR-SELF,
IF I DIDN'T LIKE YOU, WOULD I BE YOUR PARTNER?
PRAISE ME ONCE
PWWW
The train on the second platform is arriving Please remain behind the white line.
WAIT!!
THE TRAIN IS HERE
Shuu's back
was far away
Like a person I didn't know
!
For an instant
AH!
JUST ONCE ...
Praise me

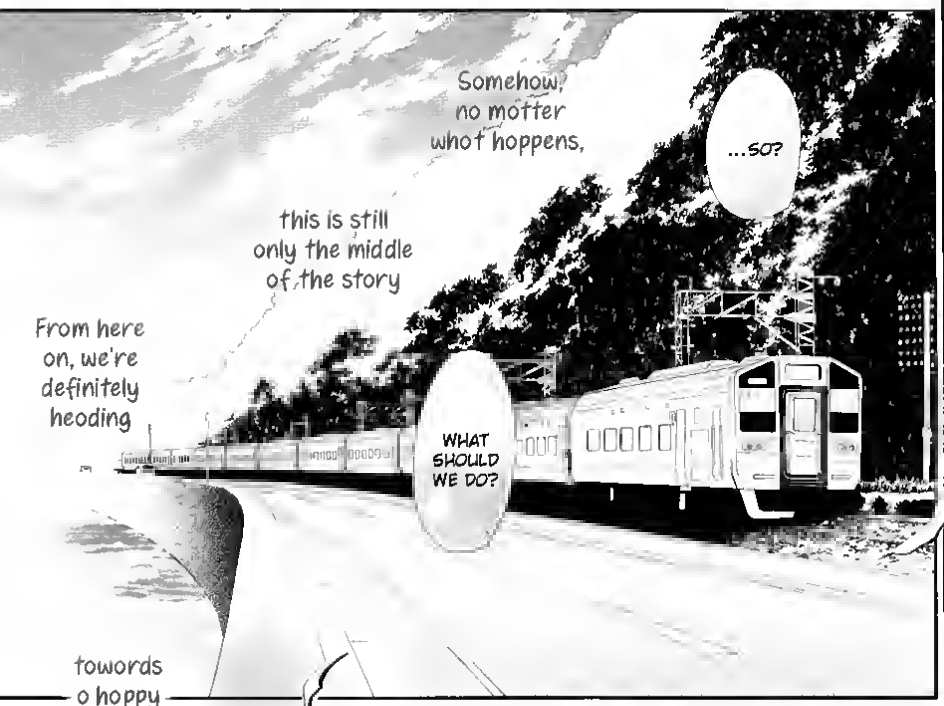
...
THANK YOU...
I WENT OUT OF MY WAY AND WENT TO TENMANGU SHRINE...
THAT'S RIGHT
I ALMOST FORGOT
Can you come with me?
...

IT WOULD BE NICE
IF I WENT.
BE-CAUSE
I ALWAYS HAVE THE INTENTIONS OF EATING THAT FROM HERE ON ALSO..
AA.. OK
IT WILL ALWAYS BE THE FRIED MEAT THAT HIRO MADE FOR ME
THAT CURRY-FLAVOURED FRIED MEAT..
YOU KNOW..

I
PROPERLY.
LIKE HIRO.
Wait!
The door is closing.
Wait...!
Wait!

A bit longer
Just a bit longer...
RATTLE

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO
ABOUT THIS?


Somehow, no matter what happens,
this is still only the middle of the story
From here on, we're definitely heading
towards a happy ending.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

I think that

The End

# Summer Staff!

We're looking for people that might only be able to help us during the summer, or beyond that. Translators, editors, cleaners, and typesetters, we're looking for your assistance! Please help us out if you have the time and ability. We have Shoujo and Sunshine!

www.nagare-fushi.net

# KYOU DAKE NO UNREAL

HALFWAY

MANGA BY
IZUMI YAMAGUCHI

SCAN: AI
TRANSLATION: KELLY
CLEAN: LENNIE
TYPESET: YUBIWA
QC: AI

UNGAZEROSHI MANGA
WWW.UNGARE-ROSHI.NET

You know, I
"OKUMURA ERIKA"
hated you

今日だけ
アンリアル

I can hear

beep
beep
beep
beep

the alarm.

7:35
7:38
ZZZ
WHO IS IT...
Sen-chan
SEN-CHAN ?
SO EARLY IN THE MORNING, THAT'S UNUSUAL
HELLO
AH HAZUKI!? YOU WERE SLEEPING!?
I WAS SLEEPING IT'S SUNDAY
SORRY
WHAT'S UP WITH THE PANICKING?
NO I WAS ALREADY SURPRISED BY SOMETHING!
IT SEEMS THAT OKUMURA ERIKA DIED THIS MORNING!

That was something
-EH?
Really unexpected
LIM-

I ENDED UP DOZING OFF AT THE ORIENTATION
AND I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW TO REGISTER FOR A COURSE
IF YOU DON'T MIND, DO YOU THINK YOU COULD TEACH ME?
WHAT'S WITH THIS PERSON
her appearance was gaudy,
and I felt that her sweet way of talking in which she extends the end of her words was a bit poor.
Suddenly coming into the circle's first meeting, I first thought "she sure is pushy."
CAN I ALSO CALL YOU HAZUKI?

and as I thought, Erika, whom I met for the second time, was pushy
MAY I SIT NEXT TO YOU?
I GUESS
NO WAY. HE'S REALLY YOUR BOY-FRIEND!?
NICE TO MEET YOU
NO WAY, I'M SORRY
MAYBE I INTRUDED!?
IS THAT YOUR BOY-FRIEND?
SORRY I HAVE NO FRIENDS AND
SURE
AH
NO, NOT REALLY...
IT'S FINE. WE WERE ONLY LISTENING TO THE LECTURE. IT'S NOT LIKE YOU INTRUDED
BEING ASKED AM I INTRUDING?" I CAN'T JUST SAY "YOU'RE INTRUDING"
YOU'RE REALLY EVERY-ONE'S FRIEND AREN'T YOU, KAZU.
REALLY!? THAT'S A RELIEF
HEY, HOW LONG HAVE YOU GUYS BEEN GOING OUT?
SOON IT WILL BE HALF A YEAR I BELIEVE
EH-
I WISH THE LESSON WOULD HURRY UP AND FINISH
HA-

I HAVE TO WORK ON THAT DAY, SO I CAN'T GO
Sorry.
I SEE, THAT'S A SHAME
WHAT ABOUT HAZUKI!?
ACTUALLY, LET'S LISTEN TO THE LESSON.
IT'S MY COUSIN'S BAND, BUT IT'S REALLY GOOD!
I'LL TREAT YOU!
IF YOU'RE FREE, LET'S GO TOGETHER.
I SEE.
DO YOU GUYS GO TO THINGS LIKE CONCERTS?
I WANT TO GET ALONG WITH HAZUKI!
IT'S BECAUSE WE JUST MET, I WANT TO DEEPEN OUR FRIENDSHIP.
YEAH I'M FREE BUT
WE PRACTICALLY JUST MET IS IT REALLY OK TO ACCEPT THIS...

When thinking that oneself is liked
I was thinking, "I wonder why you come to talk to me," but
Eruka whom was in a different department
From then on, I only had 2 or 3 chances to talk to
PILOT
AH YEAH FRIDAY IS NO GOOD AFTER ALL IT SEEMS THAT THERE'S A CIRCLE GATHERING
AND I THOUGHT THAT SINCE THEY DIDN'T TAKE ATTENDANCE I COULD RELAX, BUT A REPORT IS THE WORST
I'M DOING THE REPORT NOW THE ECONOMICS ONE
SORRY, I JUST NOTICED THE MAIL NOW
The bitter feelings cease
AH, KAZU?
YOU KNOW
HMM ?
DOESN'T IT SEEM LIKE THE TWO OF US HAVEN'T MET LATELY?
AH I MADE A MISTAKE HERE?
EH? IS THAT SO... AH... THAT MIGHT BE TRUE
sorry
BUT YOU KNOW IN THE BEGINNING IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE VARIOUS RELATION-SHIPS

PHEW
...WELL, YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT!
THEN, ON FRIDAY I'LL HANG OUT WITH SOME OTHER PEOPLE.
ANYWAY, WE MEET EACH OTHER EVERY DAY DURING CLASS.
Ah..!
Oh no
...
I'M SORRY,
IF I GET SOME FREE TIME I'LL CONTACT YOU
YEAH
YEAH
such as things like Kazu
At this time, I, who had entered university and was in high spirits, was unable to see anything,
HAZUKI,
IT'S GREAT THAT THE PEOPLE IN THE CIRCLE ARE GOOD PEOPLE, YEAH?
KAZU IS...
WALKING TOGETHER WITH A GIRL..
NO WAY! WHERE!?
SEN-CHAN...

THAT PERSON... BESIDE HIM, THE NURSING DEPARTMENT'S OKUMURA ERIKA...?
HAZUKI,
IS IT OK IF YOU DON'T CHASE AFTER THEM?
---'S POWER IS SWITCHED OFF...
-OKUMURA ERIKA,
You have to "first become good friends"
To know your enemy
HAZUKI!

It was all for the purpose of your scheme, huh.
HMM...
YOU TURNED YOUR POWER OFF.
MET ERIKA BY CHANCE, AND
BESIDES YOU TWO, YOU ALSO HAD A LOT OF FRIENDS AROUND YOU.
.....
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN DO THAT...
Rejected
THEN, BELIEVE ME
I CAN'T
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED I'VE TOLD YOU COUNTLESS TIMES.
IF YOU'RE NOT ABLE TO BELIEVE ME THEN ASK MY FRIENDS
SHE ALWAYS CAME TO TALK TO ME, SO I WAS THINKING OF WHAT THE MEANING FOR THAT COULD BE.
FROM THE START, I THOUGHT THAT ERIKA GIRL WAS WEIRD
AH, WHATEVER
SHE WAS ALWAYS AIMING FOR KAZU. THAT'S DEFINITELY IT.
...HUH-

RECENTLY, WHEN IT COMES TO HAZUKI, IT'S JUST UNHAPPINESS
WHY
THAT GIRL IS A NICE GIRL
WHY ARE YOU THINKING LIKE THAT?
SHE'S WEIRD, SHE'S AIMING FOR ME
Why is it
Even though I was just worried
Why do we have to fight about Eiruka?
why
why?

HAZUKI!
AH,
FROM TOMORROW EVENING IS THE CONCERT BUT, ARE YOU OK?
CAN YOU GO?
AH, WE DIDN'T GET TO EXCHANGE CELL NUMBERS, RIGHT?
IF YOU DON'T MIND, COULD YOU T

... WHAT IS WITH YOU?
. . .THERE'S NO WAY
I CAN GO TO THAT .
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
DON'T COME NEAR ME.
That yesterday's happening
was the last

-AH, HAZUKI?
IT SEEMS AMAZING WHAT HAPPENED TODAY WITH ERIKA OKUMURA AT SCHOOL.
YOU KNOW. I HEARD IT FROM ANOTHER GIRL BUT,
IT SEEMS LIKE ERIKA WASN'T AIMING FOR KAZU-KUN.
SHE SAID THAT KAZU-KUN'S FRIEND LIKED ERIKA AND SO
KAZU-KUN WAS HELPING HIM.
Did Okumura Erika Die?
Why
After hearing that from Sen-chan,
I became ashamed to point where I wanted to die.
But even so
I thought I hated you but,
I didn't think as far as I wanted you dead
I even thought of throwing away the ticket

IF IT'S A GENRE I DON'T LIKE WHAT SHOULD I DO ...
There's no way I'm able to throw it away
Like this,
THE LIVE HOUS
"I just heard from a friend, and was really surprised"
"I don't know very many details, but
the taxing she was riding in got into an accident or something"
"As expected, only living until 19 is
I'LL JUST WATCH A BIT
IF I DON'T LIKE IT I'LL GO HOME
pitiable"

HAZUKI!?

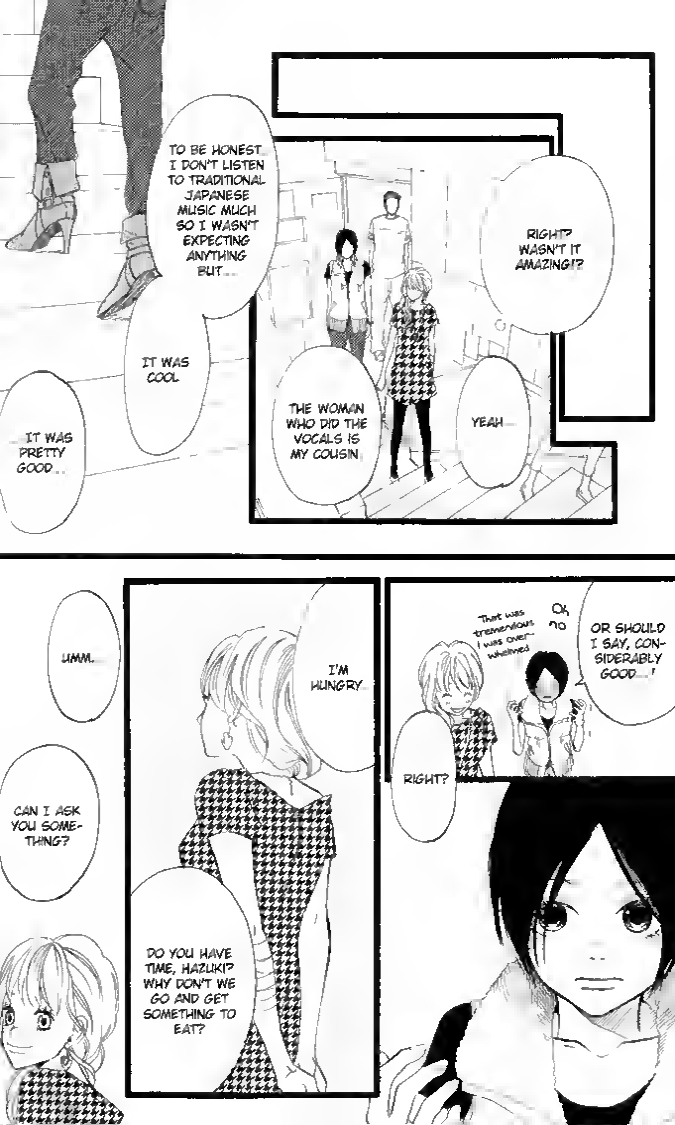
I'M HAPPY BECAUSE I THOUGHT YOU WOULDN'T COME
E-Rika!?
Why!?
Just wait a minute
THANK YOU.
NO WAY, YOU CAME
Why is Erika
"It seems she died this morning!"
PALES
!
This is too freaky!!
AH

HAZUKI, YOU'RE MAKING A MISUNDER-STANDING!
I'M SORRY!!
AFTER THAT I HEARD THE EXPLANATION FROM KAZU-KUN
THE REASON I SUDDENLY STARTED TALKING TO HAZUKI WAS
NOT BECAUSE I WAS AIMING FOR KAZU-KUN
OR SO TO SAY, UM.
UM... TRUTH-FULLY, I JUST GENUINELY WANTED TO BECOME FRIENDS WITH HAZUKI...
WAI...
SORRY... ANEMI...

I THOUGHT I WOULD COME
IN APOLOGY FOR SAYING THOSE THOUGHTLESS WORDS
AND BECAUSE OF THAT, MY EXPRESSION CHANGED AND I RAN AWAY
A ha ha ha ha
"What's with you?"
I don't want that
IF I GO TO UNIVERSITY TOMORROW, I'LL PROBABLY BE RUN AWAY FROM.
IT'S TRUE I GOT INTO AN ACCIDENT BUT
I JUST GOT HURT A LITTLE BIT
LOOK
RUMOURS ARE AMAZING, AREN'T THEY?
IT'S ONLY BEEN HALF A DAY AND SUCH THINGS ARE BEING MADE UP
If she had died at that moment
I definitely would have always regretted it.
"Don't come near me."
...Thank goodness.

It's great that Eruka lived
AH, IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S ALREADY STARTED
ARE YOU FEELING BETTER?
DOES IT LOOK LIKE WE CAN COME IN TO SEE THE LIVE?
IF YOU'RE TIRED WE CAN WATCH FROM THE BACK
YEAH
'Anyway, we meet each other every during class"
Recently, when it comes to Hazuki, it's just unhappiness"
Eruka was a male detestable girl,

I would be blind to my own faults, assume the role of the victim,
and be capable of crying.
I probably,
I seem to have noticed
For the sake of my pride, hated Eruka


TO BE HONEST, I DON'T LISTEN TO TRADITIONAL JAPANESE MUSIC MUCH SO I WASN'T EXPECTING ANYTHING BUT...
IT WAS COOL
IT WAS PRETTY GOOD..
RIGHT? WASN'T IT AMAZING!?
THE WOMAN WHO DID THE VOCALS IS MY COUSIN
YEAH
That was tremendous! I was overwhelmed
Oh, no
OR SHOULD I SAY, CONSIDERABLY GOOD...!
RIGHT?
I'M HUNGRY
UMM..
CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
DO YOU HAVE TIME, HAZUKI? WHY DON'T WE GO AND GET SOMETHING TO EAT?

WHY DO YOU WANT TO BECOME FRIENDS WITH ME?
I REALIZE ASKING THIS SORT OF THING IS ALSO PART OF THAT, BUT,
AS I THOUGHT, I WANT TO KNOW
HAZUKI
ACT-UALLY,
WE'VE MET BEFORE
EH
DO YOU NOT REMEMBER?

ON THE DAY OF THE SCHOOL ENTRANCE CEREMONY
NOO
I DON'T NEED ANY MORE
Stop it
Here you go
THIS IS A PAMPHLET FOR THE COMPUTER COURSE
AAH!
WHY IS IT ONLY ME?
NO-
EVEN THOUGH IT WOULD'VE BEEN OK IF THAT PERSON STOPPED HANDING IT OVER
YOU'VE RECEIVED AN AMAZING AMOUNT

IF YOU DON'T NEED IT, YOU HAVE TO PROPERLY SAY THAT YOU DON'T WANT IT.
FROM HERE ON, THINGS LIKE INVITATIONS TO CIRCLES ARE TERRIBLE.
YES
TH-
THANK Y-
HAZUKI!
AH-
SORRY, I'M GOING NOW.
ERIKA IS INDECISIVE AND LACKS ASSERTIVE-NESS.

BEING TOLD THAT BY HAZUKI, I SAID "AH, YOU'RE RIGHT" AND REFLECTED.
THAT'S IT?
YEAH! THAT'S IT!
.....
ERUKA
SMILE
I THOUGHT, "AH, I WOULD LIKE TO BECOME FRIENDS WITH THIS GIRL."
THAT'S IT BUT

might be a lot more genuine
than I thought
ERIKA,
YOU'RE AMAZINGLY POPULAR
EH
WHAT IS WITH THE SUDDEN, RE-MARK?
NO, I WAS JUST THINKING THAT EVERY TIME I HAPPENED TO SEE YOU IN SCHOOL, YOU ALWAYS HAD GUYS SURROUNDING YOU
LATELY, THE GUYS OF OUR DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN FUSSING SAYING, "ERIKA IS CUTE."
IT'S AMAZING.
AS FOR ME, FOR MY WHOLE LIFE THAT POPULAR PERIOD HAS NEVER COME, FOR SURE.
AH,
JUST SO YOU KNOW, THIS ISN'T SARCASTIC OR ANYTHING.
Frankly, I'm a bit envious.
BUT YOU KNOW,
RATHER THAN HAVING ATTENTION LAVISHED ON ONE BY MANY PEOPLE, BEING EARNESTLY CHERISHED BY ONE PERSON IS HAPPINESS.

BH- IS THAT HOW IT IS?
Yeah.
IT MIGHT BE BECAUSE I'VE NEVER BEEN POPULAR
ALL I CAN HEAR IS A COMMENT FROM SOMEONE WHO'S POPULAR.
OR SHOULD I SAY I'M NOT POPULAR.
Ahh, I'm getting into a sulk.
HMMM...
ERIKA,
DO YOU HAVE SOMEONE YOU LIKE?
NO.
3333#
EVEN THOUGH IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'VE HAD MANY ENCOUNTERS
I THOUGHT YOU NATURALLY HAD SOMEONE YOU LIKED
I WAS THINKING THAT I DON'T NEED A BOYFRIEND AT THIS TIME

I WAS 5-TIMED BY MY PREVIOUS BOYFRIEND.
5!?
5 5 5
.....
?
WHY?
NO... THAT'S HARSH
IT'S FUNNY
RIGHT?
No it's not
BUT, WELL
THANKS TO THAT, NOW I'M A SUPER SOLID PERSON.
I THINK I WAS A REAL IDIOT
WITH HIM BEING MY FIRST BOY-FRIEND, I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING
AND WHEN I BECAME AWARE, THERE WERE VARIOUS WOMEN'S SHADOWS
"She was always aiming for Kazu That's definitely it."

I'M...
SORRY FOR YESTERDAY...
"What's with you?"
"What do you want?"
"Don't come near me"
I'M SORRY...
EHH
IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE
FOR HITTING YOUR HAND...
ERIKA, WHOM MADE YOU MISUNDERSTAND, IS ALSO AT FAULT!
...ERIKA...

I thought I was not much of an honest person, but
Maybe it was the music that exceeded my expectations or the power of the delicious pasta
Maybe it was because the honest Eriuka was a bit cute and I felt envious
Today I get the feeling that I am able to become as honest as I want

...HUH?
YOU'RE NOT TAKING THE SUBWAY TOO, ERIKA?
HI~
IT'S BECOME THIS TIME, HUH?
ARE YOU OK FOR CURFEW OR SUCH?
YEAH.
I SEE
THEN I'LL SEE YOU LATER
YEAH
BYE-BY E.
YEAH
I'M GOING HOME AFTER I DROP BY THE BOOKSTORE

...
HAZUKI
...
...AH
...TO...

FOR COMING TODAY.
...THANKS
FamilyMart
ERIKA ?

I wonder why...
But I get the feeling that she was about to say something...
Kazu
SHALL I WARM UP YOUR BENTO?
AH, IT'S OKAY.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

KAZU!!
KA-
AHH...
I'M SORRY
I WAS THINKING OF SAYING
EVEN THOUGH THERE WERE A LOT OF THINGS
I'M SORRY

I WAS DOING KID-LIKE THINGS
LIKE IGNORING YOU EARLIER
...ME TO
SORRY
DID YOU GO SOMEWHERE TODAY?
WHAT'S WITH THAT?
TODAY, I REALIZED ALL OF THE BAD PARTS OF MY PERSONALITY.
ME TOO
TODAY I WAS REFLECTING
ALL THE DISCONTENT WAS ASSEMBLING, SO SAYING THAT WAS UNFAIR

JUST SO YOU KNOW, WE PROPERLY SETTLED THINGS.
JUST NOW... WHO DID YOU SAY?
AH, YEAH.
I HUNG OUT WITH OKUMURA ERIKA
OKUMURA E-
WAIT A MINUTE, HAZUKI
AH, THAT'S A COMPLETELY FALSE RUMOUR, BECAUSE TODAY
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...?
...
BECAUSE I, JUST UP UNTIL NOW, WAS CALMING THE GUY WHO LIKED ERIKA AND
...I HEARD ERIKA...
DIED THIS MORNING...

HE SAID TOMORROW
HE'S GOING TO HER FUNERAL SERVICE.
Wait a minute
Who's that?
Then who

Because earlier, I
This is weird, Erika
I don't know where to start looking
What should I do
Where did you go?
Erika
What is this situation?
I feel weak at the knees

Even though I said,
"See you later."

THERE
ERI-
HAZUKI
ON THIS DAY ONE YEAR AGO,
DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN WE MET HERE?
EH...
YOU DON'T REMEMBER, HUH?

YOU KNOW, AT THAT TIME
I WAS 5-TIMED BY MY BOY-FRIEND,
AND EVERYD AY
BULLIED BY ONE OF THE GIRLS AMONG THE OTHER PARTNERS,
ON TOP OF NOT GETTING ALONG WELL WITH MY PARENTS, OR FRIENDS
I JUST THOUGHT THINGS LIKE, "I WOULDN'T MIND IF I DIED TOMORROW."
"Ah, enough Just looking at you makes me irritated."
ANYHOW HE WAS SEDUCED BY THIS PERSON
IT'S UNBE-LIEVABLE THAT
THE FLIR-TATIOUS PARTNER GOES TO THE SAME SCHOOL.
FROM BEFORE, I HATED IT
I HATED THINGS LIKE YOUR FLIRTA-TIOUS WAY OF SPEAKING
OW...

EXCUSE MEEE
I DROPPED MY BIKE KEY COULD YOU THROW IT UP HERE?
YOU KNOW, I IN GEN-ER AL-
cling
OH
THANK YOU
turned away
AH
-what is it
What a pain

AH,
YOU KNOW
JUST NOW THE WOMEN THAT ARE OVER THERE
WERE TALKING ABOUT WHETHER THEY SHOULD CALL THE POLICE ON YOU OR NOT
NO WAY... THAT'S NOT GOOD
LET'S GO HOME

UM... ABOUT THE POLICE...
SO THERE REALLY ARE PEOPLE WHO DO THIS KIND OF THING
THAT WAS A LIE
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN IT.
IF YOU
IT'S JUST BECAUSE I HATE THAT KIND OF THING.
ALSO DON'T LIKE IT, YELL OR SOMETHING
THA NK Y-
AH, IT'S FINE
BUT... THEY DIDN'T GO AS FAR AS TO DO ANYTHING BAD...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING! THINGS LIKE YOUR TEXTBOOK ARE ALL BEAT UP.
WHAT'S WITH THAT GOOD-NATURED

HEY... ARE YOU APPLYING FOR THIS UNIVERSITY?
AH... YEAH IT'S CLOSE TO MY HOUSE
WHAT A COINCIDENCE! I'M APPLYING THERE, TOO!
AH, SO WE'RE THE SAME AGE
THEN,
IF WE BOTH GET ACCEPTED, AND IF WE ARE ABLE TO MEET
CALL OUT TO ME

...I
WAS QUITE MOVED BY THAT
BECAUSE I'M SIMPLE.
EVEN THOUGH I STOPPED THINKING STUPID THINGS LIKE "IT'S OK IF I DIE TOMORROW",
LATELY I'VE BEEN GETTING ALONG WITH MY PARENTS TOO
THEY PROBABLY STOPPED CARING ABOUT ME
AFTER THAT, IT SEEMED LIKE THOSE GIRLS GOT BOYFRIENDS AND
THE BULLYING STOPPED
BECAUSE I CHANGED MY HAIRSTYLE.
IT'S FINE. I WAS THINKING IT WAS FINE IF YOU DIDN'T REMEMBER
Aha
I'M SORRY, I HAD NO IDEA...
NO WAY

ERIKA.
IN THE END I'M DEAD!
HA
HAZUKI-

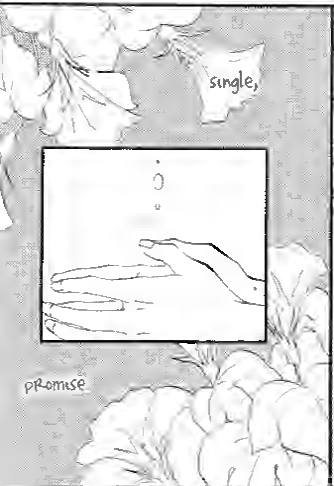
Erika was

I hated.

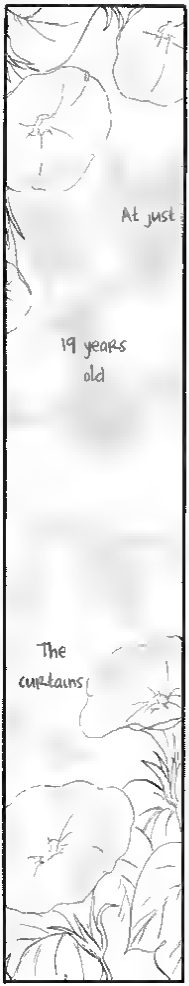
the girl

ERIKA

FOR MY WHOLE LIFE, NO MATTER WHAT, I WILL REMEMBER YOU!


single,
promise

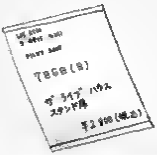
The small
Small us,
outrageously
long,
big


At just
19 years
old
The
curtains
And
then,
The
curtains
closed
For 19
year
old
Eruka

MORNING
WHEN DID I GO TO SLE
IT'S SEN-C HAN!
Why can't I remember!?
When was it that I got home!?
Huh!?
1 MUN
HAZUKI?
HE... HELLO!
YESTER-DAY
I WENT TO THE LIVE.
Why!?

SORRY I ENDED UP CALLING YOU EARLY IN THE MORNING AGAIN
NOT AT ALL
IT'S ABOUT OKUMURA ERIKA
IT SEEMS LIKE THE FUNERAL IS TODAY
Yesterday, I
YEAH...
was with
Erika
I THOUGHT I SHOULD TELL YOU JUST IN CASE.

I don't understand why she came to see me



and sad

Something so painful

Just leaving behind

why

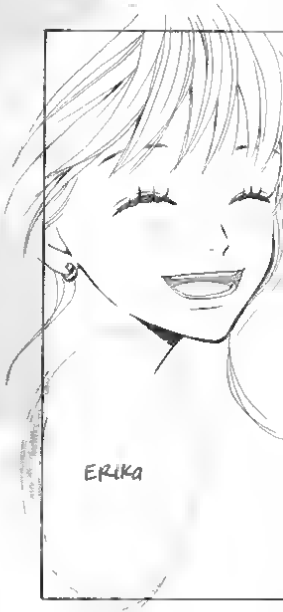
Even though

You're so selfish

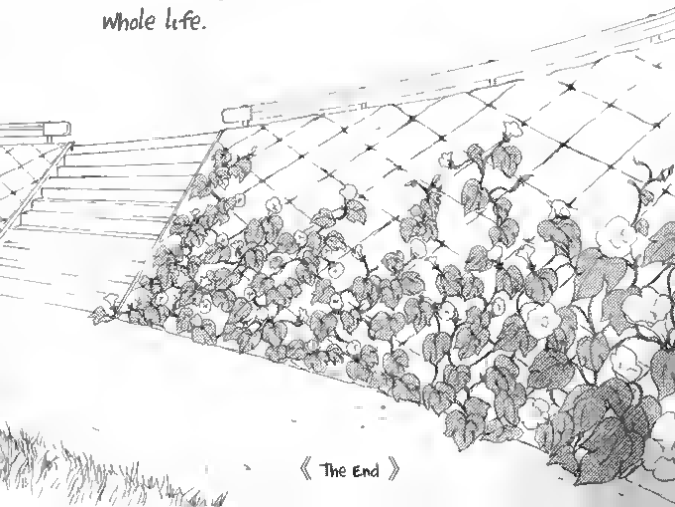
ERIKA

She was certainly there

As I thought,




I'll hate you throughout my whole life.



《 The End 》

# A Star Sleeps Until the Sun Goes Down

Manga by Izumi Yamaguchi

Scan: Ai

Translation: Kelly

Clean: Lennie

Typeset: Yubiwa

QC: Ai

Nagareboshi Manga
www.nagare-boshi.net

A Star
Sleeps
Until the
Sun Goes
Down

While saying, "Ahh, I'm tired" and
Reflecting on my day today, I arrived at my apartment, where,
In front of my room's door,
Was a single, totally drunk man
Oh, God...

Who
Who is this person!!
I don't know him.
I don't know him
I don't know him
EX-
I don't know this person at all!!
EXCU-
SE-

WAKE UP
EXCUSE ME!!
SWEET
SNNNNK
ME
...
What should I do?
...
Option 1, "Call a friend"
IT'S BAD TO CALL AT THIS TIME.
Option 2, "Seek help from a neighbour."
BUT IF THIS PERSON IS DANGEROUS, WHAT SHOULD I DO.
Option 3, "Consult a police officer"
DIALING
110
I AGREE TO THAT!!
-STER
pat pat
MISTER!!
!?
SCAP

...
YOU CAN'T SLEEP AT THIS SORT OF PLACE, MISTER
MISS WILL BE IN TROUBLE IF SHE CAN'T ENTER HER HOME.
...
EH
WHERE IS THIS
WHO...

A
ha
ha
ha
I FEEL SICK...
EH!!?
WAI-
WAIT! A BAG...
UWAH—
Yeah~
Eyeh~
AND THEN? AFTER THAT?
THAT'S SUPER UNLUCKY!
EVENTUALLY, HE WAS SENT OFF IN A PATROL CAR...
POOR MAKO!!
YEAH...
What an amazing nuisance!
Sigh

...
THAT B-DAY PRESENT
YEAH
HANG IT UP PROPERLY
BUT IT'S GOOD THAT HE WASN'T DANGER-OUS
I GUESS
A GIRL MAKING A LIVING BY HERSELF ON THE FIRST FLOOR IS DANGEROUS, SO BE CAREFUL
God,
I'm already sick
of that accident
AH
HELLO
And
right after I say it!!
GREAT, I'M ABLE TO MEET YOU.
AFTER WAITING 30 MINUTES, IF I WASN'T ABLE TO MEET YOU, I WAS THINKING OF GOING H...

OH GOD.
badabadabada
UM...
I JUST CAME TO DELIVER THIS
Uwah, amazing, she's escaping.
SWEETS ?
I'M REALLY SORRY FOR CAUSING YOU TROUBLE YESTERDAY
He's conscientious.
EH
NO! NOT AT ALL.
I THOUGHT I WOULD PUT IT INTO THE MAILBOX AND THEN GO HOME.
BUT THIS MAILBOX WAS TOO SMALL AND IT WOULDN'T GO IN SO I WAS WONDERING WHAT I SHOULD DO.
NO SORRY FOR ALL THE TROUBLE...
OR SHOULD I SAY...
YOU REMEMBERED WHERE THIS APARTMENT WAS PRETTY WELL
Even though you were drunk.
AHH...
YEAH...

Eh
...what!?
WHAT A MINUTE.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME!?
...
!!?
GRAB
HAYA-KAWA!?
HAYAKAWA MAKOTO!?
HAYA-KAWA
HA...
HA!!?
My name!?
What!?
Huh!?
Why!?
I don't want to, I don't want to! What is with this person!?

AMAZ-ING!
THUD
SO YOU'RE "CHIIMAKO", HUH!
Eh...
...
That nick-name...
"Chii-mako!"
Could it be
Could it be
Could it be!?
"MAA-CHAN"!?

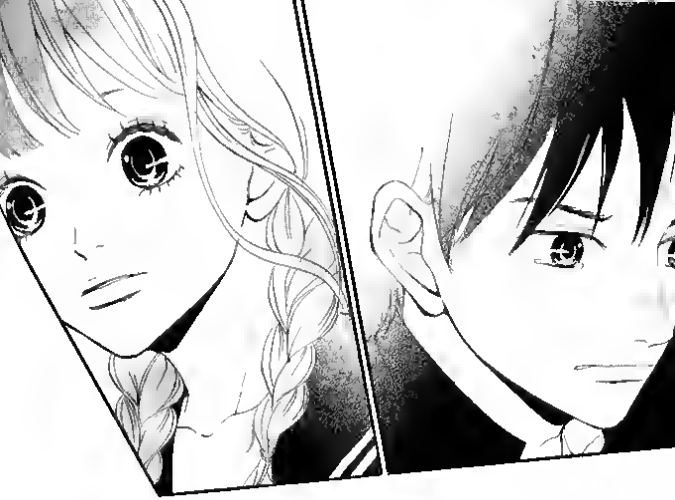
About "Maachan"
"Aoyama Makoto"
YUP!
We were living in the same apartment complex
And he was the boy who was close with his mother and lived 2 units above
Wait Maachan-
Mako is also crushin with Yuuma
CHIMAKO!
IF YOU RUN TOO MUCH, YOU'LL FALL!
SMACK
WOOF WOOF
STARE

heft
YOU'RE BLEEDING!
WHOA!
I'm going to die!!
Ah
!!!
I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
...
AH
DON'T FALL DOWN.
Gentle Maachan
Cool Maachan
THANK YOU

At that time
"Maachan" was everything
CHIIMAKO!
HAVE YOU GROWN TALLER, MAACHAN?
YEAH, IN ONE MONTH I GREW 4CM.
EHH, THAT'S AMAZING!
IT REALLY HURT
AT MIDNIGHT, SNAPPING SOUNDS CAME FROM MY JOINTS...
HUH!? HOW SCARY!
I WAS JOKING...
AH
MA-MA-
MAA-CHAN.
WOOF WOOF
IT'S BEEN A WHILE!
IT'S UNUSUAL THAT MAA-CHAN IS TAKING MINAKO FOR A WALK
YEAH-

You've become fair lately, hmm?
TODAY YOU WERE CONFESSED TO BY ONE OF THE GUYS IN MY CLASS?
THAT'S RIGHT
EH!?
NO WAY, WHY DO YOU-?
I HEARD THE GUY IN MY CLASS WAS TALKING ABOUT IT
YE-
YEAH-
THAT GUY DEFINITELY LOST HIS MIND
NO, I THINK YOU'VE BECOME CUTE
I'M NOT AT ALL..
YOU'VE BECOME CUTE
...YEAH

EH!?
WHY SO SUDDENLY
SOME-THING'S WEIRD WITH MAA-CHAN!!
OR RATHER!
Maybe he...
MA-
...I...
BECAUSE OF MY DAD'S JOB TRANS-FER, I HAVE TO GO TO OSAKA
HUH?
...IS THAT ALSO A JOKE?
MAACHA...



To the me who was just 12 years old,

a 2 hour one-way trip by train, that distance

Seemed to be farther than the distant stars and

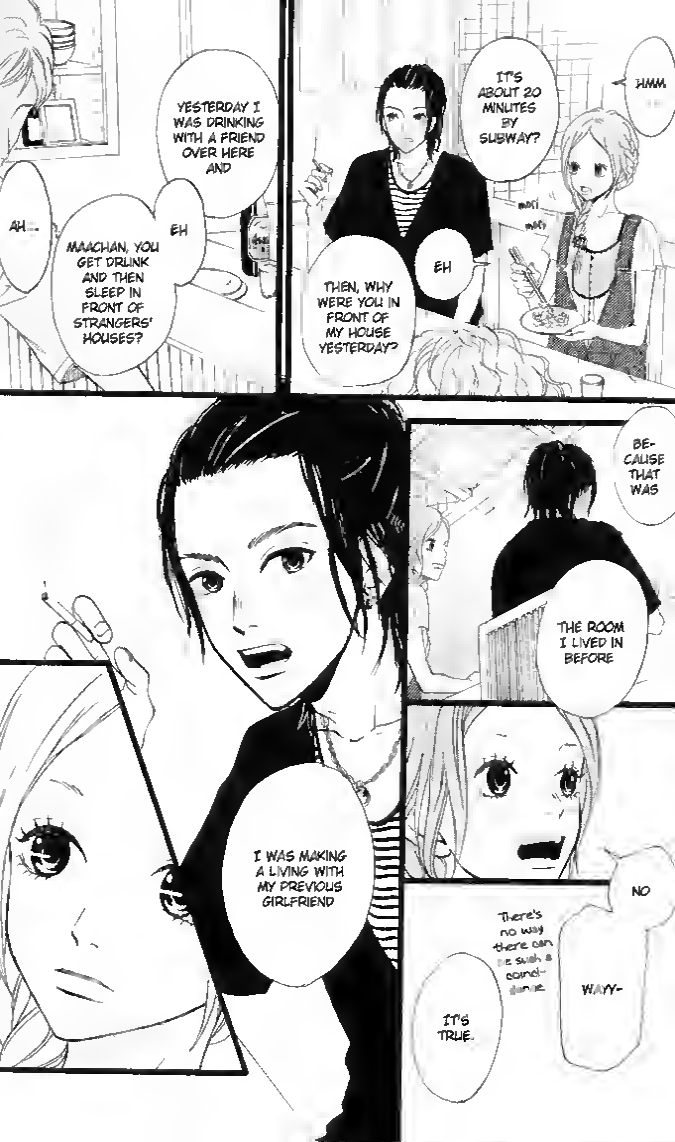
I lost heart

...I

Since then, 8 years have already passed
IN MY 3RD YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL, THERE WAS ANOTHER JOB TRANSFER AND I CAME HERE.
WHY ARE YOU HERE!?
HOWEVER, YOU HAD LEFT. I WAS REALLY SURPRISED
I'M ATTENDING A COLLEGE HERE NOW AND...
COLLEGE?
WHICH KIND?
BEAUTICIAN.
HEH.
HOWEVER, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED.
YOU'RE STILL THE SAME.
EH-MAACH AN AL-
SO...
Same thing's different
YOU'VE CHANGED
8 YEARS HAVE GONE BY...
refreshing
Eh?
TODAY, DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ELSE TO DO?
EH
WHY?
I DON'T..
HEY, CHIMAKO

hasn't changed.
LET'S CATCH UP
AH.
ON 8 YEARS' WORTH.
That grin that shows his Vampire tooth
"Chumako"

BECAUSE, IT WAS LIKE "CHIIKAMA" "
"T/N. Chikama is a frog"
"CHIIKAMA"
NORMALLY "MAKO"
OR RATHER, FROM THE START IT WAS JUST ABOUT ONLY MAACHAN WHO CALLED ME THAT
THERE AREN'T ANY PEOPLE WHO CALL ME "CHII-MAKO"
SO IT FEELS A BIT STRANGE
IS THAT SO? THEN WHAT DO THEY CALL YOU BY?
THAT'S RIGHT, AT FIRST YOU HATED THIS NICKNAME
Mom, You don't have good taste
Eh-
For the smaller Makoto, how about "Chu-mako"-chan?
But
because Maachan looked happy
CHII-MAKO
CHII-MAKO
IS MAA-CHAN'S HOUSE
CLOSE TO HERE?


YESTERDAY I WAS DRINKING WITH A FRIEND OVER HERE AND
AH...
EH
MAACHAN, YOU GET DRUNK AND THEN SLEEP IN FRONT OF STRANGERS' HOUSES?
IT'S ABOUT 20 MINUTES BY SUBWAY?
HMM
mm mm
EH
THEN, WHY WERE YOU IN FRONT OF MY HOUSE YESTERDAY?
I WAS MAKING A LIVING WITH MY PREVIOUS GIRLFRIEND
BE-CAUSE THAT WAS
THE ROOM I LIVED IN BEFORE
NO
WAYY-
There's no way there can be such a coincidence
IT'S TRUE.

Yeah
It's natural
I, too, have had people I've gone out with
And it's also been
"8 years"
yeah.
MY FRIEND TALKED ABOUT MY FORMER GIRLFRIEND YESTERDAY.
SAE-CHAN SAID SHE'S GOING TO MARRY THIS TIME
NOT REALLY HAVING ANY SORT OF LINGERING AFFECTIONS,
"EVEN IF WE WERE MAKING A LIVING TOGETHER FOR 2 YEARS, WE WERE HOPELESS
BUT JUST KNOWING HIM, THE GUY IT'S GOING WELL WITH, FOR A MONTH, YOU'RE GOING "
AFTER WALKING WHILE THINKING THINGS LIKE THAT
wibble
wibble
I ENDED UP RETURNING IN FRONT OF THE WRONG HOUSE
PIPPI!
AH
NO WAY
RIGHT?
THE KEY WOULDN'T GO IN, AND I WAS REALLY FRUSTRATED
The key won't go in
!?
SAITO
5 more tries later

In the room I live in,
MAY I ORDER SOME-THING?
SORRY
AH
Passed every-day with his "girlfriend"
Maachan
If that's so,
I would've wanted to reunite with him way, way before
God

CHIIMAKO?
AH, SORRY
WHAT'S WRONG?
ARE YOU DRUNK?
?
AH, NO...
IS A BEALITY PARLOUR SCHOOL DIFFICULT?
YEAH, WELL, IN ITS OWN WAY
HOW LONG 'TIL YOU GRADUATE?
UHHH ABOUT ANOTHER HALF A YEAR.
THAT'S SO SOON!
EH
CAN YOU CUT HAIR AND STUFF?
I GUESS
FOR THE TIME BEING I CAN CUT HAIR
FOR REAL
CUT THIS.
...Eh!?
IT'S ANNOYING TO LEAVE MY HAIR GROW...

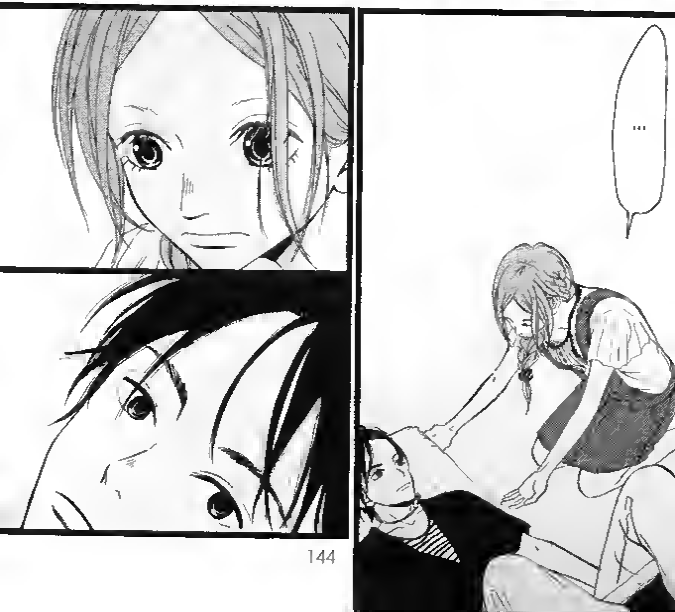
I'm
I'm
I'm
I'm cutting it!?
Is it alright!? Hey, is it really alright!?
IT'S FINE, HURRY
How many times are you going to ask me that?
SNIP
I SAID IT'S FINE!
IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE, YOU CAN GIVE ME A CREW CUT.
THIS IS STILL BEFORE I TAKE THE NATIONAL EXAM...
B-
BUT
Gyaa!!! I cut it!!!

SNIP
SNIP
THIS...
MAKES ME REMEMBER WAY BACK
WHY?
AROUND WHEN I WAS IN 5TH GRADE OF ELEMENTARY, YOU WOULD SAY STUFF LIKE "PRACTICE" AND OFTEN TAMPER WITH MY HEAD
EH-?
I DID THAT?
YOU DID, YOU DID
AND AT LAST, I ENDED UP HAVING A JAMAICAN-LIKE HAIRSTYLE
A HA HA
IS THAT SO?
I'M SORRY? IT WOULD'VE BEEN OK IF YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T WANT ME TO THOUGH.

I DIDN'T REALLY HATE IT...
I'M SORRY
FOR SUDDENLY LEAVING
BEING WITH YOU WAS FUN AND IT COULDN'T BE HELPED

AH.
AMA-ZING.
YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD
At cutting hair
THANKS.
rustle
rustle
ALRIGHT.
LET'S HAVE ANOTHER DRINK
THUD
NK.
CHIIMAKO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DRI-

I'M SORRY THAT CHAIR HAS A HIGH BACK SO THE CENTER OF GRAVITY IS IN THE BACK
I ALSO OFTEN PUSH IT OV...
oh no oh no oh no!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT!!?
Oh, no good...
EH!?
MAA-CHAN!?
OW
WWWWWW
WHAT, THIS CHAIR...
That scared me


...

Mo
U
WAH
UWah.
Wai...
Wai-
MA
MAACHA-
SIGH ..
...

"Don't fall"

"You've become cute"

AMAZING, 8 YEARS

"Going to Osaka"

8 years

"Maachan" and "Chumako"
8 years have passed
have slept
together

I guess it can't be helped
Geez.
Huh!?
No way
Has Maa-chan gone home!?
UMM
HUH!
...

WHY...
AH.
AH, SORRY.
I WENT AND BORROWED THE WASH-BASIN AND A TOWEL...
AH
..OK
What is this
Uncomfortable feeling
A really unpleasant feeling is flowing out...
I
HAVE A JOB, SO I'VE GOT TO GO.

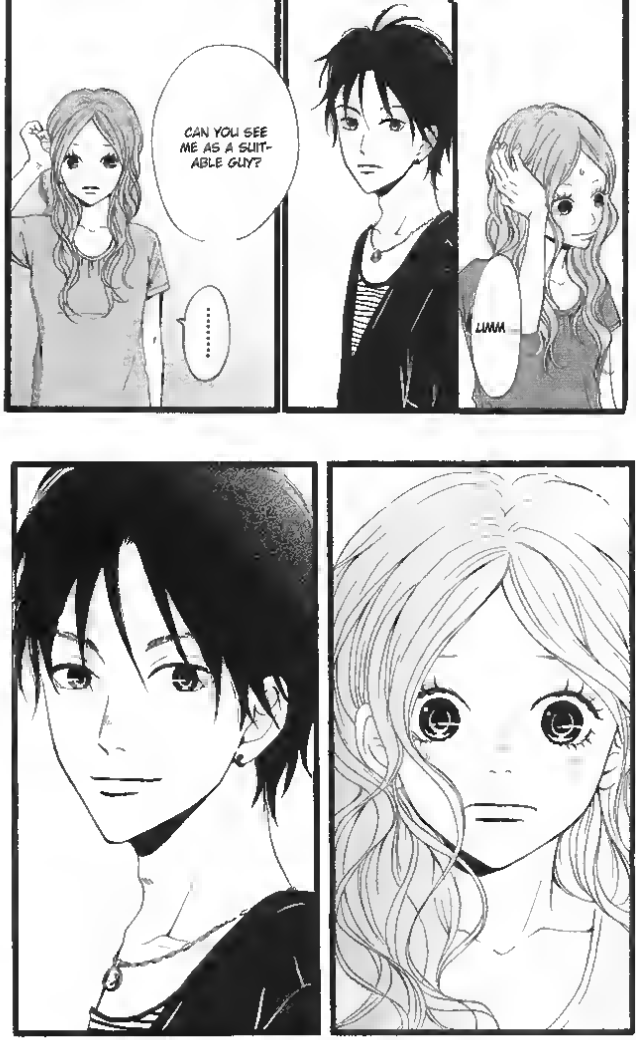
I'M SORRY FOR ENDING UP STAYING HERE
DO YOUR BEST AT SCHOOL!
LATER!

"8 years,"
"Reunion,"
If that's so
I see
I see
What they call "Something like a one-night stand"
shut
"Slightly drunk,"
And "memories"
I wonder if this is
It might have been wonderfully staged for all I know...
EVEN SO
IT'S DISAPPOINTING...

Somehow,
Right now
I'm
really
sad...
Z-uzu
SFX RUNNING
SFX BANG
Huh...

I'M SORRY.
MAN,
IF YOU'RE GOING TO CRY, SAY IT FROM THE START, IDIOT!!
!?
WHOA!
BE-CAUSE
?.
A WHILE AGO, I ENDED UP SEEING THAT
AHH
THAT'S
AH.
...
HUH?

SIGH
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?
THAT'S CLICHE THESE DAYS... IT'S MISLEADING...
WHAT IS THAT
AH-GEEZ...
Eh
No, no, no
What underwear?
Ah-
You can use this to prevent crime.
It's alright. They're new
SOMETHING MY FRIEND GAVE ME IN ORDER TO PREVENT CRIME...
I DIDN'T!
NOT REALLY
NO, YEAH, SORT OF
YEAH.
ANY-WAY,
WHY WERE YOU CRYING THEN?
I WAS FRUS-TRAT-ED
...
AH
EH
UMM
MAA-CHAN, DON'T THINK THAT I'D GET CAUGHT UP IN THAT SORT OF THING!


CAN YOU SEE ME AS A SUIT-ABLE GUY?
.....
UMM...

Showing his vampire tooth, he smiled
And then
Maachan's "grin"
Yeah.
How sneaky.
《 END 》